

II. CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

1. (Previously Cancelled)

2. (Previously Presented) Method according to Claim 18, characterized in that the confidence value is a value from an interval between a number, preferably 1, corresponding to reliable identification, and that for an input which cannot be identified, corresponding to 0, including these values.

3. (Previously Presented) Method according to Claim 18, characterized in that the identified terms are announced and/or displayed to a user as a system response, starting with the term identified as being the most reliable, on the basis of their overall probability.

4. (Previously Presented) Method according to Claim 18, characterized in that, for each identified term, those data records which are appropriate for the identified terms are looked for in a list of stored data records.

5. (Original) Method according to Claim 4, characterized in that, when data are being input, the input is completed by a data record appropriate for the identified term, using a form-based dialogue structure.

6. (Original) Method according to Claim 5, characterized in that the data input is completed in response to a request signal.

7. (Previously Presented) Method according to Claim 5, characterized in that the number of data records found can be reduced by inputting one or more further terms.

8 - 9. (Previously Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) Method according to ~~Claim 9~~claim 18, characterized in that an announcement/display sequence of the data records is defined as a function of their overall probability.

12. (Previously Presented) Method according to Claim 18, characterized in that, if the input is a voice input, the confidence value is established in the normal manner for voice recognition.

13. (Original) Method according to Claim 12, characterized in that the voice input by a user is first of all subjected to speaker identification, and in that the subsequent voice recognition process is carried out taking account of the result of the speaker identification.

14. (Previously Presented) Method according to Claim 18, characterized in that the input is made via an alphanumeric input device, with the terms entered in this way first of all being assigned the confidence value for reliable identification.

15. (Original) Method according to Claim 14, characterized in that an incorrectly alphanumerically input term, which has already frequently been input incorrectly in a manner specific to a particular user, is assigned a lower confidence value as a function of input-specific error statistics.

16. (Previously Presented) Method according to Claim 14, characterized in that an incorrectly alphanumerically input term, which has already frequently been input incorrectly in a manner specific to a particular user, is automatically corrected, with the corrected term being assigned a confidence value which is lower than the confidence value for reliable identification.

17. (Previously Presented) Method according to Claim 18, characterized in that the input is an image input.

18. (Currently Amended) A method for inputting data into a system comprising the steps of:

in response to an input by a user, identifying one or more terms, which are as appropriate as possible for this input based on a confidence value;

determining data records that match the identified terms as well as probability values assigned thereto, wherein each of said probability values is calculated for each stored data record as a ratio of the number of times this data record has been used during a certain period of time in the immediate recent past to the total number of times all the data records have been used during this certain period so as to describe the relative probability of the data record being used again;

calculating an overall probability from said confidence value of the identified term and the probability value of the matching data record; and

processing said identified terms according to said overall probability.